

New Hampshire'*Historical Society*

Thirty Park Street
Concord, New Hampshire' 03301
603-225-3381

3 September 1975

Mr. David P. McBride
P.O.Box 643
Frisco
Colorado 80443

Dear Mr. McBride,

I regret that I am unable to shed any light on the origin of the design on the 2nd N.H. Continental Regimental flag. I have checked all the information that we have compiled on the flag and the design is described in great detail, but as to the source of the design - nothing.

As best as we can tell the flag was constructed around the middle of 1777. The design is painted on rather than sewn in. This would place the flag after the design was on the currency.

I do not know of any other New Hampshire artifact that carries this design. I have further contacted Mr. Leon W. Anderson, the New Hampshire Legislative Historian, and he was unable to offer any help.

To make up for this dissapointing lack of information, I am enclosing one of our postcards that you may like to see.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Frantz
Assistant Curator

Copy of postcard mentioned by Mr. Frantz
on copy 3.



Mr. Eric P. Newman
c/o American Numismatic Society
Broadway between 155th & 156th
New York, N.Y. 10032

Dec. 5, 1975

Dear Mr. Newman,

I must begin this by telling you that I am a "fan" of yours, if such things exist in numismatics. I also hope you will consider the ideas presented herein and reply at your earliest convenience.

I have found what I consider may be a "lead" in the ongoing search for the origin of the design of the 2/17/76 Continental Currency fractional denominations, and the 1776 Continental Dollar patterns, at least in regard to the reverse designs.

When in New Hampshire last summer, I picked up a copy of the New Hampshire Historical Society's "Guide to Revolutionary New Hampshire". Lo and behold, the cover carried the thirteen ring design of the aforementioned monies! (see copy 1, attached) Upon looking inside, I found that the cover was actually a blow-up of the center of the flag of the 2nd New Hampshire Regiment on permanent display at the N.H. Historical Society, Concord, N.H. This flag is pictured on page four of the booklet. (see copy 2, attached)

I found this rather exciting since I had seen no mention of the N.H. flag connection in anything I'd read on the subject of the colonial numismatic items bearing this type of reverse design. I wrote to the N.H. Historical Society upon returning to Colorado, where I am a teacher, asking them for anything they could offer specifically regarding this design and/or flag, especially as to when it was originated and by whom. This I thought would possibly provide clues to the origin of this design. The reply I received did not place it until 1777, during the middle of the year. (see copy 3, attached)

The significance I now see in the flag is the location of this particular state's name on these several items. That is, New Hampshire is always in the prominent and most legible position on the circle of rings, that being 12:00, or very close to it at an 11:30 position.

It has one of these positions on the:

- a) 2/17/76 Continental Currency fractional notes, reverses. N.H., or rather " N. Hamps" is always at the 12:00 position.
- b) 1776 Continental Dollars, reverses. N.H. is located at either the 11:30 or 12:00 position. It is at 12:00 position on Newman 3-D, 4-D, and the 5-D. This of course includes the "E.G. Fecit".
- c) 2nd New Hampshire Regiment flag (1777 ?) 12:00 position
- d) Fugio patterns. Here I checked S.S. Crosby's Early Coins of America, p. 300, figures 45, 46, and 47. These clearly show N.H. at 12:00 position.

I tried to check your "Coin Collector's Journal", July-August 1952, monograph to see if reverses AA, BB, CC, or DD have this characteristic. Unfortunately, the plates are unclear, as I'm sure you know, and I could not ascertain. I checked an article at the ANA library by Don Taxay on the patterns (Fugio) and this appeared to show N.H. in the 12:00 position on the reverses listed. Do your plates give a clearer indication? Also, while on this subject, are a clear set of plates of the Fugios available anywhere? I would sure like one.

I don't have a clear plate of the "Washington the Great/ Ugly Head" to check for this lettering position. I thought perhaps you would.

I've written back to Mr. Frantz for more complete information or copies of whatever they have that is relevant to this design. Perhaps this is a dead end, but it bears following up. Hopefully, all of this has some meaning. The design on the flag bears too close a resemblance to the numismatica to be overlooked. The consistency of the N.H. position during 1776-77 and later may be of some importance. I feel if anyone might be able to tie this in, it would be you, hence this letter. I'm sending J.C. Spilman a copy of it since it would interest him as well.

I began to study and collect colonial coins and currency about a year ago, and have found it to be a consuming, very pleasurable pursuit. Naturally, I've come across many of your works including introductions, monographs, and standard references. I look forward to the release of your new Early Paper Money of America, and would consider it an honor if you'd autograph my copy once I get it. Any idea when they will be released?

Looking forward to hearing from you in the near future. I'd appreciate any ideas, comments, help, etc. you may care to offer on all of this. I'll forward anything new that I receive to you.

Don't forget: E.G. put N.H. at 12 in '76 !

Sincerely,

David P. McBride

David P. McBride
P.O. Box 643
Frisco, Colo. 80443

cc: J.C. Spilman

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 23, 1975

Mr. David P. McBride
P. O. Box 643
Frisco, Colorado 80443

Dear Mr. McBride:

Your kind remarks with respect to what I have written are very much appreciated and I hope you continue with the enthusiasm towards Colonial coin and currency matters which your letter of December 5, 1975 indicates.

The information with respect to the design on the New Hampshire flag is new to me and I congratulate you for having located it. So far as your evidence goes, it seems clear that this is a copy of the design on the paper money which was issued early in 1776. Therefore, to have any antecedents this design would have to be moved forward at least a year. I am convinced that Benjamin Franklin produced the design as I have often written.

The new edition of Early Paper Money of America should be out in early Spring, as I am pouring over the galley proofs now. If you want me to autograph one for you, it would be my pleasure. Right now I am worried most about typesetting errors as some pages are on their fifth revision.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

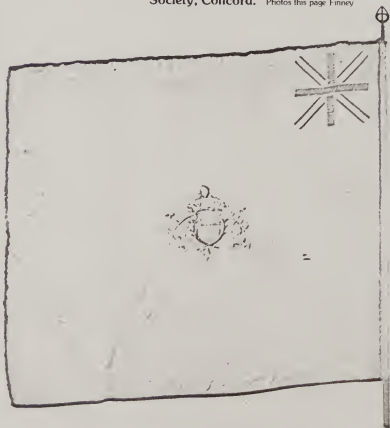
A Guide To

Revolutionary New Hampshire





Flags of the 2nd New Hampshire Regiment on permanent display at New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord. Photos this page Finney



Dome on New Hampshire State House



Corner of Prentiss kitchen, N. H. Historical Society

Fort Number 4, Charlestown Photo Bob Swenson



Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman NES
6450 Cecil Ave.
St Louis 7, Missouri

8/17/76

Dear Mr. Newman :

Thank you for your letter of 7/9/76. As you requested, I asked my friend here if he would make a Xerox copy of each of the early bank notes. This seemed to be a better prospect with this person than sending them to you via U.S. Mail. He did respond favorably to the idea and said he would send the copies to school with one of his children once it resumes (Aug. 26). I will remind him via the kids and hopefully I'll be able to send you these soon thereafter. The gentleman is not tremendously interested in them so it may take some prodding on down the line to get this done, bear with me please. I did tell him that I could get them evaluated as an enticement.

In my letter to you in early July I asked if you could help me to get more information on a flag (13 linked rings) in Old City Hall, Philadelphia. Please disregard

this now since I've found that it is a replica of the
U. H. 2nd Regimental Colours and was made in
this century. Yet another use has come to
light since I last wrote, the thirteen linked rings
(+1) were used on Annos Doolittle's "Display of
the United States of America", 1791, and this in turn
was used in a carpet made by William Peter Sprague
for the Senate Chamber in Congress Hall, Philadelphia.
The additional ring in Doolittle's "Design" contained
the "Arms of the United States".

The ANA and the Numismatist editor Mr. Harris
would like to print my article simultaneously
with the CML. I'd like this so I'm writing to
Jim Spilman to see if he'd be agreeable to the
idea.

That's all for now—

Best Regards

David P. McBride

P.O. Box 643

Frisco, Colo. 80443

McKendall 9/27/76

Dear Mr. Newman -

Here are the Copies of the various pieces of currency that I said I'd send to you. I've included all of them for your inspection so you would be able to give me an evaluation for the entire collection. If you could give a ballpark figure of the collection's value and also point out any notes of special interest, my friend here will be satisfied. I hope you find something of interest that is new to you so you get

- 2 -

Something out of this too. They are not for sale. I don't think my friend here would even entertain a large figure since he values the bunch highly for sentimental reasons.

Should you wish to comment on any specific note, they are numbered for your convenience. Looking forward to your reply.

Best Wishes -

David McBride

P.O. Box 643
Frisco, Colo.
80443

THE

5

(10)

FIVE



The President, Directors & Company
of the MERCHANTS BANK in the CITY of NEW YORK.

[illegible]

exceeds in demand *Sept. 1872*

Sunde Catharine Nash. Dick, Maria C. Post.

卷之四

5

(C)

Two Hundred and Sixty Six Dollars


(of the (Ontario Bank) London &c

July 10. 1862. General Land in demand 100 Dollars.

Cambridge Sept 4 1872

W. Ribbe

St Gorham


25
No. 941
XXV

The Corporation of the Old Fountain Company
 promise to pay the bearer, at the State Bank at New-
 Brunswick, **TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.** Sept. 13, 1815.

A. *John May* Paid.

Twenty-Five Cts.

The Corporation of the Old Fountain Company
 BEARER & MATH, JR. promise to pay the bearer, at the State Bank at New-
 Brunswick, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS. Sept. 13, 1815.

A. J. May Presd.
Twenty-Five Cts.

Twenty-Five Q's.

[illegible]

1. New York (2) State Bank 8/21

~~St. Petersburg~~

~~W.D. 1890-1891~~

the New York State Bank Henry J. May

2 John Taylor

2 John Taylor

THREE
(No 42)
THREE
 The President, Directors and Company of the
 MERCHANTS BANK in the City of NEW-YORK
 promise to pay the Bearer on demand
 THREE Dollars
 Dec 2. 1815
 Underwritten Cash *Wick, arick*

THREE
(1-354)
Three (3)
 The President, Directors & Company
 of the BANK of NEW-YORK promise to pay the Bearer on
 demand THREE Dollars New York: 1814
 Underwritten Cash *Wick, arick*

THREE
(No 3871)
3
 The President, Directors and Company
 of the JERSEY BANK promise to pay the Bearer
 on demand THREE Dollars
 Jersey: 1814
 Underwritten Cash *Wick, arick*

FIVE
(1-119)
[FIVE]
 The President, Directors & Company
 of the MERCHANTS BANK in the City of NEW-YORK,
 promise to pay FIVE Dollars on demand
 Underwritten Cash *Wick, arick*

(2)

The President of the STATE BANK at Newark promise to pay **TWO** dollars or bearer on demand.

 Cash **2**

The President Directors and Company of the BANK of BALTIMORE promise to pay to the order of **TEN** dollars or bearer on demand.

 Cash **10**

The President Directors and Co. of the Mechanics & Farmers Bank in the City of Albany promise to pay **20** dollars or bearer **TWENTY DOLLARS** on demand.

 Cash **20**

The President and DIRECTORS of the One Dollar Bank promise to pay to the order of **ONE** dollar or bearer on demand.

 Cash **1**

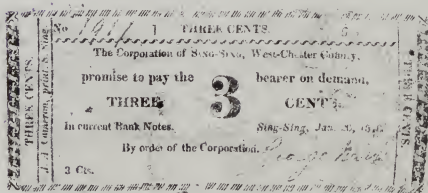
4



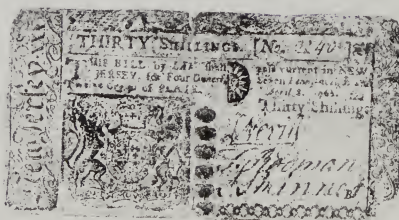
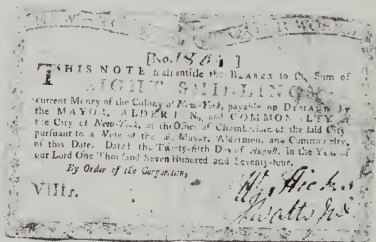
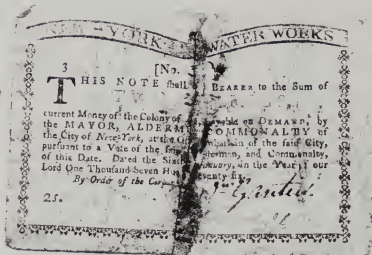
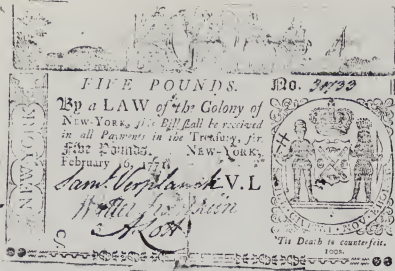
FOUR CENTS.

I promise to pay the Bearer, on demand
at the State-Bank at Morris. FOUR CENTS.

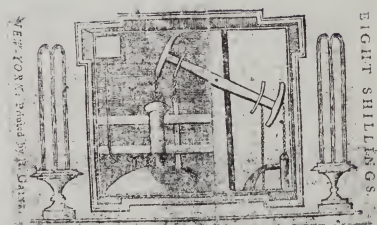
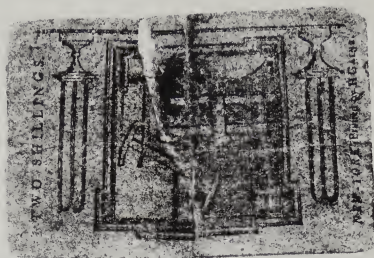
September 12, 1818.



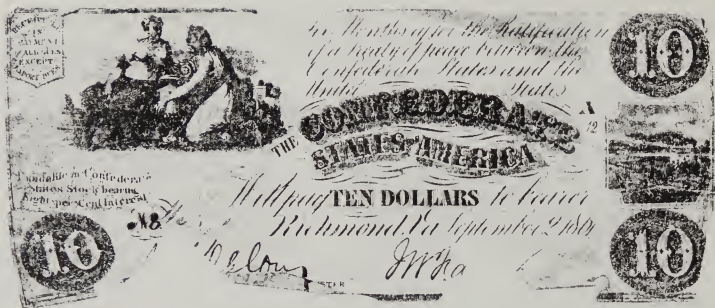




7



2007



Banana nose satirical halfpenny (dated either 1770 or more probably
the actual date is 1772, the 2 weak)

Metal: copper

Weight: 9.1 grams or 140.4 grains

Diameter: 28mm

A number of things are reversed from an actual George III
halfpenny:

- a. G's in GEORGIUS are upside down facing off coin.
- b. GEORGIUS is on the right instead of left.
- c. Obverse bust faces left instead of right.
- d. Reverse figure of Britannia faces right instead of left.
- e. BRITANIA reversed, BRITAN on right, IA on left.

Besides the upside-down G's and the reversals, there are what seem
to be satirical elements:

- a. The nose is huge, like Banana nose, and seems to
be indicative of caricature.
- b. The facial components, lips (puckered) and eye (bulging),
are ugly; the chin is weak.
- c. The head is hairless, the ribbon crude.
- d. The wreath is a mere three scrawny twigs above head.
- e. There is no clothing on the body.
- f. This George is unidentified by number, i.e. (II, III),
perhaps meant to be an insult which robs identity.



Mr. Eric P. Newman
EPN Numismatic Ed. Soc.
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, MO

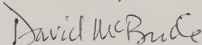
7/14/78

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed plates and notes about a piece which I recently acquired and which I send along to you for your inspection, amusement, comments and observations. Do you have any notion about it? It seems to me that it is either a backyard creation by an incompetent die-sinker with no satirical intent, or the same but with satirical intent. Ken Bressett examined it at the ANA a few days ago and said he felt it was die-struck, not cast.

I was glad to hear that you and the ANS were able to recover all the coins stolen from the exhibit. I think you should feel lucky about that.

Best Wishes,



David P. McBride
P.O. Box 643
Frisco, Colo. 80443

P.S. Please keep the enclosures for your files.

I am sending sets to various numismatists for their opinions. Can you give me Walter Breen's address?

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

July 18, 1978

Mr. David T. McBride
P. O. Box 643
Frisco, CO 80443

Dear Mr. McBride:

Thank you for sending me the pictures and description of your 1772 counterfeit British half pence with some reversed lettering on the obverse. The banana nose may be a die break. As you may know, there is a 1771 British counterfeit with all of the lettering reversed and I will gladly send you its detail if that is important to you.

My most recent address of Walter Breen is P. O. Box 352, Berkeley, CA 94701.

Thank you very much for your message of good cheer as to the recovery of my coins. It was nothing short of a miracle that they were recovered in good shape.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

November 20, 1979

Mr. David P. McBride
P. O. Box 643
Frisco, CO 80443

Dear Mr. McBride:

Your "Linked Rings" is a fascinating piece of work. Congratulations. This is the type of research which the Numismatist should be proud to publish.

Incidentally, the 1789 panic (p. 2383) was caused by the excess of State franchised copper combined with the counterfeit regals.

Keep on writing and researching.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

2/1/83

Dear Mr. Newman -

It's been a while since we corresponded. I am writing a comprehensive book on the U.S. Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps (Duck stamps). Here's an interesting piece I recently acquired. Is this the 1785 Counterfeit George III 1/2d you mentioned in your Bungtown article in the ANS Colonial Studies?

It is heavier than most with pretty good die work for a counterfeit. Any ideas on origin, rarity, value?

Sincerely -

David P. McBride
P.O. Box 643
FRISCO, CO 80443



1785 →

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

February 8, 1983

Mr. David P. McBride
P. O. Box 643
Frisco, CO 80443

Dear Mr. McBride:

If you want me to help you on the 1785 imitation half pence, I think you should send it to me for examination. The rubbing is just not adequate enough for me to check the die variety, origin, etc..

Good luck on your book on Duck Stamps.

Sincerely yours,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Feb. 21, 1988

Dear Mr Newman -

Thank you for your letter of Feb 8. I have done a little more research on the piece (1785 $\frac{1}{2}$ d GIII Counterfeit) which I enclose.

On WILLYS BETTS address on Counterfeit $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1886 (copies enclosed) on page 4 there is a Counterfeit dated 1785 with identical obverse. The reverse is significantly different.

- a) The head of Britannia is ill-defined on mine
- b) The branch in his drawing shows the tip pointing to the bottom of "N", whereas mine points above and to the right of the base of "N".
- c) Mine has a left foot visible - his has no left foot, only a right one.
- d) My exercise of one line is different than his of three.
- e) The folds of Britannia's clothing are different
- f) Mine does not have the die defect apparent on his to the top right of Britannia's head.

Any comments you may have will be appreciated.

Sincerely

D. P. McBride

Po Box 643

FRISCO, CO 80443

13-76

COUNTERFEIT HALF PENCE

CURRENT IN THE
AMERICAN COLONIES,
AND THEIR ISSUE FROM
THE MINTS OF CONNECTICUT AND VERMONT.

ADDRESS

BY

WYLLYS BETTS, ESQ.,

BEFORE THE

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

PRINTED BY REQUEST OF THE SOCIETY.

NEW YORK

BURGOTHEN'S Quick-Print, 146-148 CHURCH STREET.

1870.

arrangement of the hair is in lines without waving, diverging from a point at the back, this style being found in no other half pennies until we come to 1787. The hair in front of the mouth is in heavy ringlets. The lips also, instead of being of unequal length, as in all other earlier half pennies, are therefore more or counterfit (Nos. 2 and 3), are made of two narrow lines of equal length and pursed up close under the nose. The eye is long and almond-shaped, and the nasal leaves are broad and well defined, and terminate in a single leaf above, instead of in a group of three, as in the colonial half penny of 1775, and in almost all other counterfeits. The legend has no period after *GEORGIVS*, and the periods after *III* and *REX* are placed in line with the base of the letters, instead of at the center, as on all other counterfeit half pennies of prior date. (Compare Nos. 7 and 15 with Nos. 3 and 4).

After 1778 the most half penny coined was dated 1751 and 1785, each year showing the variety of good execution, closely resembling the counterfeit of 1775. The latter specimen is illustrated in No. 4.

THE HALF-PENNY 1780 PASS.



1780

In 1780 there is but one very rude specimen, both N's of "NICHOLSON" being at the right of the goddess (No. 8, p. 8).

No. 5—1778.



Obverse of

In 1787 there are four which are combined to a tion of three of them is pers of 1778, the hair be lines and ringlets, and t peculiarities. The broad period after *GEORGIVS*, a periods in line with the here.

In 1788 but one variety eye are the same as in out wave, and the arrangement same peculiarity, altho and none after *REX*. (N

What, then, can we le Among all these counts whether any of them a so, which of them shall made? That is the sul

The copper coins hav title of George the Thir "Inde et Lib. 1788," h in the American Colon.

D. P. McBride
P. O Box 643
Frisco, Colo 80443

3/4/83
6450 Cecil Ave
St Louis Mo 63105

Dear Mr McBride —

I have studied your 1785 counterfeit British 1/2d and have compared it to the two varieties I already have. All three are from the same source. My notes are enclosed

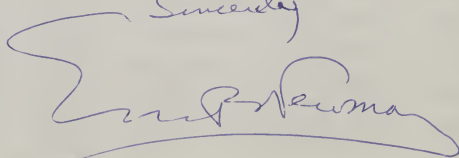
The Betts drawing is quite inaccurate in leaving off the foot. It also tries to show a die break or planchet defect.

I will probably have all the pieces photographed and will send you copies.

It so happens I have a 1781 ctf 1/2d in duplicate and if you don't have one I would like to exchange it plus another ctf 1/2d you do not have for your 1785. I try to assemble all varieties of "non-existent" dates as well as ctf's of existing dates.

Thanks for your cooperation

Sincerely



3/4/83

1785 Imitation English 1/2 d

#1

E. F. Newman

Obv: Upper bow end points to ^{lower} left tip of E of GEORGIVS
Die break in upper part of E in REX

Rev: Head opposite center of A
Upper left twig opposite right base of N
Left part of head very weakly struck
Single base line under Britannia.

#2

E. F. Newman

Obv: Upper bow end points to right of E
in GEORGIVS.

Period after X lower than center of
letters
[Same die as Betts illustration (No. 4)]

Rev: Top of branch points to right base of N
Double base line under Britannia
Staff points to top of first I of date
Head opposite right base of T
[Possibly same die as Betts illustration (No. 4)]

#3

D. P. McBride

Obv: Upper bow end points to center of E in GEORGIVS

Rev: Same as Rev of #1

D. P. McBride
P. O Box 643
Frisco, Colo 80443

3/4/83
6450 Cecil Ave
St Louis Mo 63105

Dear Mr McBride —

I have studied your 1785 counterfeit British 1/2d and have compared it to the two varieties I already have. All three are from the same source. My notes are enclosed

The Betts drawing is quite inaccurate in leaving off the foot. It also tries to show a die break or planchet defect.

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Thanks for your cooperation

Sincerely

OK - keep it
with my regards.

D McBride

Ernst Newman

Mar 23, 1983

D. P. McBride
P. O. Box 643
Frisco, Colo 80443

Dear Mr. McBride:

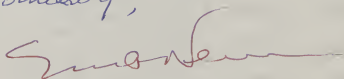
I have telephoned your St. Louis office, two condos in Aurora, a residence in Inglewood and MCB Construction in Aurora (using a WATS line) to try to thank you personally for the 1785 halfpenny. We are very appreciative of your kindness but I would like to reciprocate in some way.

Do you ever come to St. Louis to your office here or isn't this your territory? If so I would like you to see our money museum or anything in the collection which you would enjoy. Perhaps our coin + currency library would be fun for you to see.

In any event I would like to know more of your collecting interests so I might find something to give you as much pleasure as I received from the 1785 Copper.

My best greetings for spring.

Sincerely,



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

June 6, 1983

Mr. D. P. McBride
P. O. Box 643
Frisco, CO 80443

Dear Don:

I enclose herewith slides which I have made of the 1785 half pence which you were kind enough to give us and an example or so of what we already had.

After careful examination, I have determined that the piece which you had had the obverse from one of my 1785 pieces and the reverse from another of my 1785 pieces. That naturally means they were all made by the same counterfeiter. One of my pieces of the exact die combination was illustrated in Betts.

When I tried to telephone you to thank you originally for this coin, I found that you had an office in St. Louis, or a member of your family did. Why don't you call me sometime when you are in St. Louis so as to see our Museum and some of the curiosities in the fields in which you are interested.

Thank you again for your kindness.

Very truly yours,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encls.

6-17-83

Dear Eric:

I am pleased that you like the 1785 cft. 1/2 D and that it matched your other pieces through die linkages. The slides you sent to me are appreciated and interesting. You wanted to know what I collect. I once collected U.S. Colonial and British tokens of the 18th century. I am now selling these collections and also an 'evasion' collection. I do have some wierd counterfeits. The only thing I am keeping is a collection of Canadian Blacksmith tokens and I doubt you could help there as they are very scarce. Thanks anyways. I do not have an office in St. Louis, but I will call you if I am there on a visit.

Sincerely, *David McBride*

303/468-6839 668-3522 (Sept-May) David McBride

Dear Eric -

6-28-87

Thank you for the copy of your interesting article on the 1785 1/2 d. It certainly re-awakened my dormant interest in these pieces. I hope the one I once gave you helped you in this research in some way.

I am enclosing a copy of a short piece which appeared in Colonial Newsletter about my prize counterfeit 1/2 d. the Banana Nose. If you would like to examine it some time, please let me know so we can make arrangements. It is the most extraordinary, crude caricature of King George III I have seen on a coin.

There are a few more counterfeit 1/2 d scattered around here - nothing very exciting, really - which you could also see if you so desire. I'd have to round them up. 5-10 pieces. They're really junk. Then I have Blacksmiths -

WCCO #3 - 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 23 (double struck), 33

I couldn't get the CMC article copied - please see March 1986 seq. page 705, TN-87. I do enclose some photos which I may have sent to you ten years ago - please keep.

Best wishes -

David McBride

PS Some reviews of my book are enclosed for you with attention.



BANANA NOSE 1/2 d